PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
MUSEUM
& HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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# ANNUAL REPORT

# 1998 - 1999

The Board acknowledges the assistance of the P.E.I. Department of Education, The Department of Canadian Heritage/Museum Assistance Program; The Department of Economic Development; Jobs for Youth; Employment Development Agency; Human Resource Development Canada; The Canada/Prince Edward Island COOPERATION Agreement; Canada/PEI Infrastructure Agreement; and The General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages.

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## *CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE*
### *James Macnutt, Q.C.*

Two primary objectives motivated the Board of Governors during this past program year. The first was to secure a replacement for the Museum's artifact storage facility in West Royalty. The second was to improve the Museum's profile throughout the Island.

We have achieved some measure of success with each of these objectives. The board with the active guidance of the Planning and Development Committee has met with Government at virtually every level to persuade it of the necessity and merit of a new facility which would not only adequately house the provincial collection but would also offer both display and education space. The board was pleased to receive Cabinet's approval in principle for the project. Several potential sites have been explored but none has yet been approved. In addition to the support of Cabinet in advancing our interests in this regard, the Charlottetown Area Development Corporation is taking an active interest in assisting us in achieving our goal.

While each of our seven sites is very well known in the communities in which they are located, many of them are either not identified as being part of the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation or not well known in the other areas of our Island community. The board established a "Marketing and Communications Committee" which has the immediate challenge of improving that situation. The committee is actively developing a policy and a strategy which the board can pursue to achieve its goal in this area.

There have been some notable successes this year such as an average 34% increase in attendance at our seven sites. This increase over the previous year is the result of the initiative, creativity, and energy of our Museum staff.

A particularly satisfying development this year has been the initiative of Island businessmen to create a history of the twentieth century. The history is being written by Dr. Ed MacDonald who has been seconded by the board to this project. The three businessmen are Fred Hyndman, Rick Coles and Alan Buchanan. The board thanks them for thinking of the Museum as the vehicle for carrying out this highly significant millennium project.

The board must note a profound concern at the lack of adequate funding for Museum programming. As the Government of Canada abandons its funding for public access and programming to museums, the provincial government is not picking up the shortfall. Nor have we had replaced the $75,000 reduction in provincial government funding imposed during government downsizing. The result of this financial squeeze is felt by every member of the staff and has led to an understandable frustration and apprehension for the future of the Museum. It has its most obvious results in our year-end financial statements which show us in a deficit position. The board will continue to lobby for an improvement in funding for both the administration and programming of the Museum.

## *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*
### *Christopher Severance*

We continue to do more with less. In recent years the Museum has been fortunate in earning revenue from unexpected sources, i.e. filming projects, staff secondments and special

projects. These and others have concealed the fundamental financial weakness Responsibility for this rests with the Province and its reluctance to commit resources to its Provincial Museum. It is ironic that new projects always have priority over established institutions.

The Christmas Holiday season has come to rival February's Heritage Week with many activities, culminating with the Levee on New Year's Day. At Orwell, Beaconsfield, Eptek and the Acadian Museum special events and programs were provided for Islanders. Eptek's first Christmas Craft Fair was a new initiative by Nonie Fraser and her staff. All staff have the ever present challenge of program review and reinvention.

It appears that one Millennium Project will be funded under the October 1998 grant run. Beaconsfield Historic House will receive $83,000 contribution toward a $250,000 restoration. The staff, Board and local Boards are reconsidering other projects, in view of the unwillingness of the Millennium Bureau to consider funding infrastructure improvements.

The Board's decision to transfer ownership of Elmira's mail car to the Central Development Corporation resulted in concern from Eastern Kings County over its loss as a tourist attraction. It would have been helpful if this concern had been evident over the twenty years the mail car was subject to vandalism.

The next fiscal year's financial position is not going to be improved by the Province - I have been advised that there will be no additional resources beyond a *status quo* allocation of $606,000. Therefore, staff have revisited the decision not to apply for MAP Public Access transitional year funding. Boyde Beck's MAP application for the inshore fisheries exhibition component, part of the co-produced fishery's exhibition (Newfoundland Museum, Nova Scotia Museum and the Museum of Man) was postponed until the next MAP grant run, scheduled for early 2000. If successful, a grant of approximately $32,000 will be shared among Beaconsfield, Eptek, Acadian Museum and *The Island Magazine*. Resources, both staff and financial, required to produce quality programs and exhibitions at the Museum's seven locations have continued to dwindle. With the recognized importance of the cultural tourist, it is paradoxical that the Province so far has demonstrated little interest in investing in cultural product.

The Millennial Gift to the people of Prince Edward Island was announced early in January. The contracts and agreements have been executed and the projects underway. The Gift Committee has undertaken to raise all funding to complete the project. Dr. Michael Bliss has agreed to act as general editor with Dr. Ed MacDonald as author.

The Chairman advanced with government the Museum's need for an Artifactory replacement. We were disappointed in missing out on the former Eaton's Department store. Interest then focused on the former CN Car Shop. Discussions occurred with the owner - Confederation Centre of the Arts. As I conclude my report we are seeking reconsideration of a location at Holland College's Royalty Centre.

Six contract positions will become classified, and open for in-service competition. However, the incumbents may apply as well. At the Acadian Museum three positions are available - Director, Administrative Assistant and Program Assistant; at Beaconsfield the

Program Assistant, Director of Economic Development and Preparator are open. Our long service casuals seem to qualify for an automatic call-back.

## *GREEN PARK SHIPBUILDING MUSEUM & HISTORIC YEO HOUSE*
***Linda Arsenault***

We enjoyed a very successful year. Attendance was over 8000, an increase of 36% over 1997. Some credit for increased attendance is due to the filming of *Emily of New Moon* at the Yeo House, but I believe that four goals, initiated last year and continued this year, contributed to this season's improved attendance: (1) community involvement; (2) staff flexibility; (3) advertisement blitzing; and (4) improved programming.

The crew of *Emily of New Moon* transformed Yeo House, so that it became Treasure House, Ian's home and inn in *Emily of New Moon*. Changes included painting the exterior taupe with chocolate brown trim, recreating the mast flag pole; enlarging the garden; new gateposts and a circular driveway; and positive changes inside the house.

I met with nine Women's Institutes and the Senior Citizens' Association seeking their input. Each agreed to host an evening activity, either the Wednesday Evening *Lecture Series* or a *Ghost Story Evening*. The three Women's Institutes that participated in the Blueberry Festival agreed to participate in the 1998 festival. The Friends of Green Park provided support for *Kids' Day* and *The Flower Bed Contest*, in which ten community organizations participated. Local entertainers contributed to the success of the two *Concerts On The Green*, with the first concert having an attendance of 200 people and the second 100.

We continued with *Sea Shanties*, seafaring songs and other ditties performed by *The Men of The Shore*. Due to the filming of *Emily* the *Sea Shanties* were limited this season. The three *Ghost Story Evenings*, held at full moon, were entertaining and well attended. Staff and students worked flexible hours so we were able to staff special functions and evening events.

Special events in July and August included Canada Day on July 1st and Kids' Day on July 18. The 21st annual Blueberry Social, on August 16 drew 1400 people and Seniors' Day, held on August 23, attracted 125 seniors and 100 visitors to the Garden Party.

Knowing that advertising attracts visitors, we promoted our site in the media again this year. Flyers with the upcoming week's activities were posted on bulletin boards, in craft shops and restaurants, and included in church bulletins.

In the 1800's shipbuilding was the fuel that drove the Island economy. In 1998, Green Park Shipbuilding Museum and Historic Yeo House contributed significantly to West Prince's economy. With well planned programs and events, advertising blitzing, community involvement, and a willing staff, our site played a positive role in West Prince.

## *ACADIAN MUSEUM*
***Cécile Gallant***

In 1998-1999, the Acadian Museum and the Center for Acadian Research undertook ventures using information technology to promote its collections and programs. The French version of our website was launched on May 27 at *www.teleco.org/museeacadien*. The English version will become available in 1999. Thanks to an Industry Canada School Net

Digital Collections' project, we digitized images and texts from the Center for Acadian Research's archival photo and text collections. This database can be accessed at *www.teleco.org/museeacadien/musee_rech/rech_pub/* and Industry Canada School Net's website at *www.rescol.ca/collections*.

Besides organizing public programs such as the **Festival Folk-Acadie** (July 19 - August 15) and the **Christmas at the Museum** craft and food fair (December 4 - 6), five temporary exhibits were presented.

1) Produced by the *Musée acadien du Québec à Bonaventure (Gaspé)*, the travelling exhibit ***"L'Acadie du Québec"***, opened on March 29, told the story of the one million Québécois with Acadian roots. The exhibit included interpretative panels, a video, an interactive map, a CD-ROM, Acadian costumes and educational material.

2)Produced by the *Musée acadien de l'Université de Moncton*, the travelling exhibit "**Evangeline's Odyssey**", opened on June 19, commemorated Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's epic poem *Evangeline* published in 1847. Visitors appreciated this high quality exhibit displaying over one hundred works of art, objects and illustrations related to *Evangeline*.

3) The exhibits **"The Woman's Whole Being: Works by Anne Gallant"** and **"Centennial of the Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel's Church (1898-1998): A Spiritual Heritage to Discover"** were respectively opened on October 4 and November 15.

4) **"Six Months of Winter"** opened January 24, 1999, was an exhibit previously curated by Boyde Beck to which we added winter artifacts from the Acadian Museum's collection. The exhibit also presented drawings on the winter theme made by Grade 5 and 6 students from the Évangéline, François-Buote and Miscouche schools.

Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, and a delegation of 25 people (including the Irish Ambassador to Canada and the Canadian Ambassador to Ireland) honoured the Acadian Museum with their visit on October 3, 1998. Museum Chair Mr. James Macnutt, Cécile Gallant and representatives from the Acadian community welcomed the official party.

I greatly appreciate *L'Association du Musée acadien's* continuing involvement in the development of the Acadian Museum, in particular in its advisory role and for the important contribution from its Trust Fund to the Acadian Museum's operating costs.

I wish to thank the staff, Angèle Barriault and Cécile Arsenault, for their dedication and excellent work. My appreciation to Gloria Arsenault, Gisèle Demers and Martin Richard. *Merci* to project employees Edna MacKinnon, Edwige Nicholas, Jolène Arsenault, Daniel Arsenault and Jocelyn Arsenault, to students Melissa Gallant, Noella Richard, Rachel Arsenault, Angela Arsenault and Réjean Richard; to volunteers Alice Richard, Orella Arsenault and the many others who contributed time and talent to the Acadian Museum.

The Acadian Museum acknowledges the Canadian Heritage, the P.E.I. Department of Education, Human Resources Development Canada, Industry Canada, P.E.I.'s Francophone Affairs Division, the Québec/P.E.I. Agreement, the Evangeline Tourism Association, the Société Saint-Thomas-d'Aquin, Canadian Council of Archives, Young Canada Works and Jobs for Youth for their contributions and support.

## *EPTEK EXHIBITION CENTRE*
***Nonie Fraser***

The year was a challenging one having taken on two jobs - director of Eptek and Beaconsfield. I am pleased to report both

locations had a successful year in attendance, exhibitions and public programs. At Eptek the programs consisted of:

***Pathways***, a multi-dimensional travelling exhibit featuring Newfoundland artists Diana Dabinett and Tara Bryant, and sponsored by the Friends of Eptek, ended mid April.

The ***Summerside Art Club Show*** opened April 14 and was enhanced by a lecture series.

In early June the summer exhibit ***Rural Routes: The Heart and Soul of Prince Edward Island*** was installed. Eptek opened seven days a week and some evening hours. The programs consisted of lectures, tours, and interactive afternoons with the artists. ***Rural Routes*** closed October 11 with an attendance of 15,849.

Seamstress Anita Thompson made turn-of-the century costumes for the guides of Eptek Centre and Beaconsfield Historic House. The ***Historic Costume Program*** was an HRDC project in partnership with the Department of Education's Cultural Development Program.

The ***Red Sands Gift Shop was*** a new venture to Eptek for revenue generation and customer service. The stock was on consignment and the shop remained open until Christmas. ***Red Sands*** will be expanded for 1999 reflecting the summer exhibit of folk art and Island artists.

***Jack Turner's War***, curated by Boyde Beck, opened November 8 with a heartwarming ceremony that included Jack Turner's daughter, granddaughter, and great-grand son.

October until March, the Friends of Eptek presented the ***Thursday Noon Lunch Time Film Series***. Attendance was very good with travel films the best draw. Other fall programing included ***Ghost Stories***, a natural history lecture, a lecture with Clint Morrison, and music recitals.

Eptek hosted its first three-day ***Christmas Shopping Party*** the last weekend in November. Twenty-eight vendors presented arts, crafts, collectibles, and food.

The Friends of Eptek continue as an important partner in the program delivery. On November 30, 1998, they held the ***Annual Christmas Auction*** which proved to be a success raising over $4,500.00. The Friends funded construction of six display cases, refurbishing of five existing cases and purchase of eleven plate-glass tops. Many thanks!

As the year was coming to an end, ***Them = Us: A photographic Journey Across our Cultural Boundaries*** was installed. ***Them = Us*** carried us into 1999 and ended the first part of February making way for the Friends of Eptek collection exhibit, ***Treasures '99: A Personal Look.***

We launched a campaign to increase the visitation to the centre. Thirteen weekly prizes, with a grand prize of a Victorian Christmas for two at the CP Prince Edward, will be drawn for early in June. Starting in March and running until the end of May, every $2.00 admission will give visitors a ballot to enter the weekly draw.

Eptek Centre hosted the Island Lecture Series, and a lecture/workshop series, ***A Splash of Colour,*** in partnership with the Malpak Arts Council.

The Friends sponsored a HRDC job creation project between October - March filled by Bobbi Jean Cooper who proved to be an exceptional team member. Staff Lynn Turtle, Cecile Arsenault and Ms. Cooper are to be commended.

Attendance has increased this year. We credit this to the marketing strategy, the introduction of the gift shop, the heritage discount coupons, and staff dedication.

## *BEACONSFIELD HISTORIC HOUSE*
***Rosemary Driscoll***

Nonie Fraser was appointed Director and Rosemary Driscoll Beaconsfield's Program Assistant, sharing the position during the summer with John Boylan.

Old favourites included: the Garden Party in July with strawberries and ice cream; Collectors' Day in October; our Christmas Open House; the New Year's Levee; and a celebration of Robbie Burns Day in January. With a lot of effort these proved to be very successful events.

A major addition to programs was the Children's Heritage Festival. It ran six mornings per week throughout July and August. Stage Door Theatre School produced *Emily of New Moon - A Musical*, and Teresa Doyle, the Girls of Bedlamb, and Acadian fiddler Anastasia DesRoches performed traditional music in a program "*if fish could sing.*" Janet O'Neill of Stage Door and Teresa Doyle arranged for sponsorship with Subway and *The Guardian* resulting in a well-advertised program. The Festival attracted over 3400 people during its run.

A second initiative was the participation of businesses in decorating Beaconsfield for Christmas. Elizabeth Ghiz from Elizabeth's Garden and Shirley Simpson, Brenda MacDonald, and Gwynne Corrigan from Vesey's Seeds donated their time and materials to help us look our best for the holidays.

Other program and event highlights included: the Princess Louise Fundraising Dinner on April 25; a reception for the Storytelling Festival and an evening of storytelling with Baba Jamal Koram in September; two mini-lecture series in the Fall and Winter respectively; two sold- out nights in November for a workshop called "Decorating for the Holidays" with Elizabeth Ghiz; and a 25th reunion for current and former staff, board, and Friends of the Heritage Foundation and the P.E.I. Museum and Heritage Foundation.

The Carriage House was the site of many of our activities including the Institute of Island Studies Island Lecture Series and the Charlottetown Historical Society. The Carriage House washrooms and kitchen were completed this summer with financial assistance from the Canada/PEI Infrastructure Program. What a difference it has made in program delivery to have fully accessible washroom facilities and a "new to us" fridge and stove. The P.E.I. Garden Club purchased a bench and bird bath for the Geoff Hogan Memorial Garden.

We relied heavily on project staff and volunteers to carry out our programs. The Employment Development Agency has been most generous this year in providing funding for several 5-10 week work projects for David Doucette, Billy Rhynes, Yvonne Shephard, Kevin Heron, Patrick Sellar, Frank Riley, and Stephanie Kenny. Our four excellent summer guides, hired through the Jobs for Youth program, were Kinza Baker, Shannon Classen, Robyn Kellough, and Rebecca Mawle. They had brand new costumes to wear thanks to a grant from HRDC. Terri Wyatt was hired for a total of ten weekends through a "shoulder season" grant from TIAPEI.

Volunteers included: Leonard Driscoll, Peggy Coupland, Mary Kendrick; Dolly Hennessey, Rose Ling; Joan Cumming; and Elizabeth Driscoll who, among other things, made some amazing new decorations for our Hallowe'en party. Our thanks and gratitude go out to you all.

***PROGRAM OFFICER***
***Wendell Boyle***

The Museum offered a much appreciated

program to teachers and students studying Island heritage. A number of program options for classroom visits were established. I assisted with the Christmas school program at Beaconsfield Historic House. A special program was offered over the Christmas Holidays where students participated in a full day program of activities. The holiday season culminated with the New Year's Levee.

From January to March there were 23 school visits, with an average of 6 classroom presentations per visit, reaching approximately 3400 children. In addition presentations were made to seniors' groups, community schools and tourism workshops. Other activities over the winter included program planning, special events such as the Burns' Birthday Party, March Break Program, Charlottetown Historical Society meetings, spring lecture series, and representing the Museum on the board of the Island Nature Trust.

## *ORWELL CORNER HISTORIC VILLAGE*
***Wendell Boyle***

Attendance at Orwell Corner was very close to 20,000 visitors, reflecting a busy tourist season, extended hours of operation, the quality of interpretation, the diversity of special programs and events and the support we receive from The Orwell Board. The increased number of visitors in the fall was significant. Our regular programs included 18 ceilidhs, Garden Exchange, Canada Day, Old Farm Day, Summerfest, Seniors' Tea, Collector Day, Bluegrass Festival, Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Threshing Day, Harvest Home Festival and Dinner, Ploughing Day, Christmas Dinner, Christmas Concert, Card Parties, Kids' Day at the Corner, "Hold the Haggis", "Temperance in a Teacup", "Flash in the Pan" and the "Storyteller's Festival". We held a special staff reunion and birthday party to honour our 25th anniversary, several family reunions, 2 weddings, special activities for the Boy Scouts during their Jamboree and the film crew from "The Inn Chef". Several thousand Island students took advantage of our "day-visit" program in the spring and fall season. In the fall some staff and board members represented Orwell Corner at the annual Association of Living Historic Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) meeting hosted by Louisbourg Historic Site.

In the fall we developed plans for the new agricultural exhibition centre and forwarded them to the Millennium Commission for approval. Improvements included an addition to the community hall and the farm machinery shed in the farm yard, completed with the combined assistance of the Province, Federal Infra-Structure Program, the Orwell Trust Fund and the Board of Orwell Corner. Special mention must be made of the support received for building improvements from the Department of Public Works including replacement of deteriorated roofs, addition of a new well to the community hall, and interior repairs in the barns.

Coupled with our success this past season is the realization that we must have more staff and program support to continue to develop Orwell Corner's potential.

## *BASIN HEAD FISHERIES MUSEUM*
***Anne Garrett***

The season was the busiest to date with increased gift shop sales and attendance up 80%. We attribute the increases to the growing reputation of the Singing Sands beach, the renovated grounds and new facilities, and the Museum's programs and activities.

In June Lieutenant Governor Gilbert Clements opened his photo exhibit. In July we celebrated Canada Day and had our annual Strawberry Social. August Fest 98 featured a kite festival, volleyball tournament, entertainment, trivia, demonstrations, and a cold plate dinner for 225 people. We also held a mussel day and hosted the PEI Storytelling Festival.

In July and August we had a Monday night lecture series, two family reunions and a wedding. We are grateful to the Department of Transportation and Public Work's eastern co-ordinator Gerard Fraser for maintaining the Museum and adjoining buildings. A decision will have to be made as to the future of the aquariums.

Student staff included three Jobs for Youth students, one Young Canada Works student and an exchange student from Quebec.

Thanks to the new Basin Head Museum Board who supported and assisted in our festivals and events and bought a "much needed" vacuum cleaner for the Museum. I also would like to thank the staff Anne, Cindy, and Joan, along with my colleagues for all their assistance and support.

## *ELMIRA RAILWAY MUSEUM*
***Sharon Rose***

After a slow start the season built to our best ever. The quiet start provided time for cleaning and becoming acquainted with the site. The Confederation Trail was busy with bikers and walkers.

In July, we held a successful Strawberry Social, and the beautiful weather kept the trail busy. There is a loyal following of people interested in the railway, former railway families, and model train enthusiasts. Public Works repaired the freight shed and admission/gift shop buildings, and replaced the board walk between the shop and the station. Our summer students, Patricia Holland, Crystal Bailey and Julie MacNeill were dedicated workers. We had two staff members on site seven days a week.

## *EXHIBITS AND PROGRAMS*
***Boyde Beck***

On the exhibit side, "Worth A Thousand Words: The Photography of Gilbert Clements" was revised and installed at Basin Head, "Jack Turner's War," an exhibit of World War I photographs taken by O'Leary native B H "Jack" Turner, was developed for Eptek. The summer exhibit for Beaconsfield was "Made On PEI," a survey of Island invention and creativity. "Six Months Of Winter" was revised and installed at the Acadian Museum.

Exhibitions currently in production include "Dress Codes," for Beaconsfield, "Heartworks: Folkart on Prince Edward Island," for Eptek, and a condensed version of "Jack Turner's War," for Basin Head.

Major programs included Heritage Photo Album and Artifact of the Month features for the *Guardian's* Weekend Edition, March break and Christmas programs, Artifact ID Days, and the 17th annual Island Lecture Series. This year's series, again held at Beaconsfield's Carriage House, was entitled "Modern Times: Prince Edward Island in the 20th Century." The 16 lectures, held at six different venues, attracted close to 800 participants.

## *COLLECTIONS*
***Boyde Beck***

We began use of our new records management

system – Heritage Sentinal – in April, 1998. This entailed the downloading and conversion of over 63,000 records formerly housed at Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN). We received from donors approximately 500 artifacts in 26 different collections. Close to 300 artifacts were processed for 31 different loans within the Museum system and to other individuals and institutions. Needless to say, this entails a great deal of work, and thanks must go out to volunteers and employees made available through a variety of programmes. Thank you, Jenna Deglan, Angela MacLeod, Joel Gillespie, Andrew Colford, Waiel Aref, and Matthew Gillespie. Thanks also to the programs that made it possible for them to work with us: Museum Assistance Program, Charlottetown Rural High School's Co-operative Education Program, Jobs for Youth and Canada World Youth. Daily responsibility for the Collection rests in the very capable hands of Registrar, Marilyn Thomsen.

Finally, many thanks to those who made donations to the Provincial Collection last year. They were, in alphabetical order:

Mr. Victor Bernard
Mr. Egbert Boertien
Ms. Dianne Brydon
Mrs. G. Davis Carson
Hon. Gilbert Clements
Ms. Katherine Dewar
Doiron Family
Government House
Mr. & Mrs. A. Humphrey
Ms. Myrna Johnston
Ms. Kate Kechnie
Estate of Ms. M. Lant
Legislative Assembly
Estate of Ms. M. Lucas
Mr. James Macnutt, Q.C.
Mr. Gordon MacKenzie
Mrs. Laura Mair
Mr. Randolph Manning
Mr. Reg Porter
Ms. Edna Power
Mr. Henry Purdy
Dr. G. L. Ramsay
Rogers Hardware
Mr. William Smith
Mr. Randy Tully
Mrs. Mildred Watts
Mr. & Mrs. Freeman Whitty

## *PUBLICATIONS/HISTORY*
### *Boyde Beck*

As a result of the Board's decision to set up The Katherine McInnis Fund for publishing, this programme is moving forward. Preparations are underway to publish *The Everyday and Extraordinary: An Island History Almanac*. A compendium and chronology of Island history, this book will be launched this summer. Other publishing activities for the past year included reprints of *Meacham's Atlas* and *An Historical Sketch of Eastern Kings*. Preparations are currently underway for issue #45 of our flagship publication, *The Island Magazine*.

## *CONSERVATION*
### *Linda Berko*

I joined the staff in February with the purpose of providing conservation for the Provincial Collection, and the public and private sectors.

A Conservator's primary concern is the Collection. To fulfil this mandate and address planning needs, a condition survey of the 70,000 artifact collection is underway. This will confirm current records, and provide data necessary for funding applications and insurance. A condition survey of artifacts housed at Government House has been completed. The information provided is facilitating the Government House Committee to prioritize and schedule treatment.

Conservation information has been provided to the staff. When the seasonal museums reopen, additional on-site services will be provided, likely in the form of advice on handling and care.

General conservation information has been provided to the public, both over the phone and through programs such as an Artifact Identification Workshop held at the Acadian Museum in Miscouche and during community museum site visits. Outreach will continue

with scheduled workshops in June and October in conjunction with the Community Museums Association. Participation in elementary school heritage programs at Tignish, St. Louis and Charlottetown was also included in this period.

I have also had the opportunity to liaise with various interest groups and colleagues at local and regional community museums, associations, and affiliated agencies through on-site visits, meetings and workshops. These important connections provided insight into the needs of the community and general public.

Conservation treatments of artifacts from Beaconsfield and the Artifactory are currently in progress. Space in the conservation lab of the Public Archives has been generously offered for treatment needs. Many thanks to the staff of the Public Archives for support and information provided to date.

Quotes for conservation service have been offered to the public and government agencies. Clients include Government House and the Department of Veteran Affairs. This component should grow as knowledge of the conservation service increases.

## *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
***Lynanne Love***

For the third consecutive year, the Museum received funding for its marketing initiatives. This grant of $15,000 was obtained through the COOPERATION Agreement to carry out projects including on-and off-Island print advertising, system-wide sites' brochure and expansion of the Museum's website. Our sites enjoyed a significant increase in attendance in 1998, and I believe this is due, in part, to the promotion that takes place because of the funding we receive from the COOPERATION Agreement.

Support from the Island's corporate community is vital for the growth of the Museum. It is a never-ending challenge to increase our Corporate Membership and to obtain corporate sponsorship for *The Island Magazine*, Heritage Week, and other events and exhibitions. Our 1998 **Partners in Heritage** for *The Island Magazine* included Island Travel, *The Guardian*, TechnoMedia, Seaman's Beverages and Williams & Crue. This year's sponsors of Heritage Week were Bagnall's Tim-br-Mart and the Culture Heritage and Recreation division of the Department of Education.

Once again, the Museum's Life Members generously supported our annual Christmas Gift Campaign, and numerous (regular) members have made donations to our sites, publishing program, the provincial collection and to the Endowment Fund. We were fortunate to receive a major donation from the estate of Katherine McInnis of Maryland. As a result, the Katherine McInnis Publishing Fund has been established.

Andrew MacKinnon resigned from his position with the Museum in June and, through a number of provincial and federal projects we were fortunate to be able to hire Aliceanne Reid Doyle as support staff.

Thanks to Rundell Seaman, Chair of the 1998 Corporate Membership Campaign, Dr. David Ashby, Chair of the 1998 Christmas Gift Campaign; and the Museum's Membership Committee, Clive Stewart, Hugh (Pete) Paton and Tom Connor. As I leave the Museum and accept the challenges of a new job, I wish to thank those who have helped me over the past four years . . . members of the Museum staff.

and Board, Catherine Hennessey, Fred Hyndman, David McKenna, Kevin Murphy and John Corbett

## *MILLENNIAL GIFT PROJECT*
### *Dr. Edward MacDonald*

Research for the Millennial Gift Project began at the conclusion of my secondment to the Institute of Island Studies in mid-November. During the project, I will be devoting 100% of my work time to researching and writing the history of Prince Edward Island during the 20th century. The project team consists of Rick Coles, Fred Hyndman, Alan Buchanan, Andrew Robb, Michael Bliss, and myself. Aside from overall supervision of the project, the members have also certain focii. Coles, Hyndman and Buchanan will now concentrate their efforts on fund-raising, Professor Robb will be the official liaison with the Board, and Dr. Bliss will act as advisory editor.

Research has gone well, though it must be intelligently selective, given the timelines and the magnitude of the subject. A number of speaking engagements, particularly the keynote address in the Island Lecture Series, have focused the subject. A detailed chapter outline, presented in mid-February, has charted the structure of the book. By mid-April, the first chapter had been roughed out. Writing and research will now proceed in tandem.

During May we hope to hire one or two graduate-level students (or equivalent) to pursue directed research over the summer months. An immense amount of work remains to be done, but it is exciting and rewarding work. The project is well begun.

My thanks go out to members of the public who have offered material or suggested avenues of research. My thanks, as well, to many colleagues who have lent support, advice, insights, research, and a receptive ear. Thanks particularly to one of them, Boyde Beck, who has not contributed along the lines described above, but who has absorbed most of my duties since I've been away from my regular job.

## *GOVERNMENT HOUSE COMMITTEE*
### *Dr. C.W.J. Eliot*

Through the period covered by this report, 1 September 1998 - 23 March 1999, the Government House Committee has been made up of the following members: C.W.J. Eliot, Chair, Judy MacDonald, Harriet Meacher, Sharon Moyse, Edward Rice and Scott Stewart as members at large, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, Faye Pound as representative of the PEI Museum and Heritage Board, Frank Chaisson from the Department of Public Works and Transportation, and Marilyn Thomsen from the Staff of the Artifactory, the last two non-voting. As of this date, the Committee has established only two committees, the Nominating with Faye Pound, Chair, Edward Rice and Harriet Meacher, and the Garden with Chief Justice Kenneth MacDonald, Chair, Jean Riordan, David Carmichael and Roger Yonker. In place of the External and Internal Committees, the Government House Committee is experimenting with acting as a committee of the whole with respect to all matters that formerly went to one or other of these two sub-committees. A report on the effectiveness of this arrangement will be made in due course to the Board of the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation.

The following are the matters that have taken up most of the Committee's attention: the completion of the rebuilding of the verandah and south portico, now largely done except for

the new Ionic capitals being cast for the main portico; a long-term plan for the improvement of the gardens and the landscaping of the park surrounding the residence, now taken in hand by the Garden Committee, an organized and long-term program of repair and maintenance of the furnishing of Fanningbank, including the re-upholstery of the two settees in the foyer, both pieces sent from England as part of the building's original decoration, and an equally important program of repair and maintenance of the basement to insure the future stability of the residence Other items that are being actively debated by the Committee are its own modes of operation, a plan for organizing an archival record for Fanningbank, a replacement heating system, the final phase of repairing the outside of the residence-- mostly connected with the north wings and the interior court between them-- and a long-term plan for enhancing the interior decoration

The Committee continues to receive support from the Lieutenant Governor and the Minister of Transportation and Public Works, and particular thanks is owed the latter for the interest he has shown in repairing the basement It is a sad duty to record the loss of one of Fanningbank's most loyal supporters, Mrs. Edith Neily, who as long as she lived worked for the beauty of the park that defines the place of the Governor's Residence

The Nominating Committee is recommending for next year, 1999-2000, that the Committee remain unchanged

*ATTENDANCE*

**ATTENDANCE FROM JANUARY 1, 1998 TO DECEMBER 31, 1998**

| | YEAR | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1998 | 1997 | % |
| ELMIRA | 4632 | 4454 | 4 00% |
| BASIN HEAD | 16963 | 9412 | 80 23% |
| ORWELL | 18887 | 16791 | 12 48% |
| BEACONSFIELD | 11834 | 9290 | 27 38% |
| EPTEK | 21948 | 12960 | 69 35% |
| ACADIAN MUSEUM | 10240 | 9528 | 7 47% |
| GREEN PARK | 8463 | 6121 | 38 26% |
| THE TOTAL | 92967 | 68556 | 35 61% |